



20
22



ANNUAL REPORT

Queensland Writers Centre



(07) 3842 9922



admin@qldwriters.org.au



Level 2, State Library of Queensland
Stanley Street, South Brisbane

About Our Organisation

At Queensland Writers Centre, we love stories. We love the writers who tell the stories and the readers who give them life. We love the way stories help us to understand and connect with those around us - while also gaining a greater understanding of ourselves.



We are the leading support and resource centre for writers and writing in Queensland, offering a comprehensive online and in-person range of services. We provide information and advice for anyone interested in writing, whatever their level of experience or ambition.

Queensland Writers Centre is a part of the National Writers' Centre Network – Australia's largest network of writers. The network supports and connects writers in all the states and territories of Australia. Together we represent more than 10,000 members, and a far broader constituency of early career, emerging and established authors – across all genres, all styles and all parts of Australia. As a network, we partner with the Australian Society of Authors to ensure advocacy on a national level.

Our members are published authors, emerging writers, children's authors and illustrators, screenwriters, journalists, editors, agents, publishers, poets, storytellers, playwrights, cultural producers, freelance writers, teachers, academics, family historians and critics. We strive to support every member and provide them with the opportunities to write, publish and create.

OUR VALUES:



DIVERSITY – We believe in creating opportunities for diverse voices and stories to be heard and celebrated.



ACCESSIBILITY and INCLUSIVITY – We are committed to ensuring our programs and services are accessible and inclusive.



COLLABORATION – We work collaboratively within the Queensland community – sharing our knowledge and expertise, being open to new ideas and contributing to and supporting our partners, stakeholders and the cultural sector.



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CEO Report

It's so easy to forget that 2022 began with floods and the State Library closing down overnight on 25 February and not reopening until 2 May, with staff only able to return on 16 May. Unlike the previous two years of COVID restrictions, this shutdown was unexpected and immediate. Working from home seemed more difficult than ever and the strain on our staff was immense. But as always, the team kept going despite the complete disruption to our program.

GenreCon was forced to undertake a last-minute pivot to online. It could have been devastating for the GenreCon community. Instead, everyone embraced technology and set up our using Gather to host conference keynote Amie Kaufman and patron Marianne de Pierres. We created a space where attendees could create avatars, hang out at a virtual rooftop bar and participate without losing the sense of fun and comradery.

Another highlight was our first Queensland Writers Centre/ Varuna Fellowships that opened on Valentine's Day... our love letter to our writers, giving back to them for their dedication to the Centre and recognising the excellence amongst us. My thanks go out to our inaugural judging panel of Madonna Duffy (UQP), Dr Rohan Wilson (QUT) and Dr Anna Whateley. With funding secured for three years, I'm so looking forward to our continued partnership with Varuna and

sending more of our writers to the beautiful Blue Mountains.

The ...ables suite continued to grow and attract increasingly high calibre entries from around Australia. The brand created through this innovative suite of programs adds to the national influence of Queensland Writers Centre and our ability to progress the careers of writers throughout Australia.

A final highlight I want to share is our nomination for Resilient Australia Award for Community, for the Telling Our Stories To The World program. On the night, we were runner up only to the Red Cross for their work in flood ravaged areas. This is an amazing achievement for such a high-level award and highlights Queensland Writers Centre's growing reputation for excellence in rural and regional engagement.

As we head into 2023, I am determined to lead a team that will continue to innovate and create, as a part of a writers' centre that delivers exceptional opportunities, and elevates writing as both an art form and a vital component of our community.

Lori-Jay Ellis
CEO
Queensland Writers Centre





Chair Report

It's been a wonderful year of comebacks and renewal, despite the ongoing economic and social aftershocks and anxieties from pandemics and flooding.

Arts orgs everywhere have been doing it tough whilst striving to stay in touch with the aspirations of their members and remaining true to core values. Ours being that storytelling in all its forms plays an essential role in building wellbeing.

The Centre, through the tenacity, determination and service orientation of our devoted CEO, Lori-Jay Ellis and her staff, interns, volunteers, and the Management Committee: Mary McSweeney, Lara Cain Gray, Stephen Torre, Peter Long, Kim Douglas, Colin Hester, Jemma Pollari, Rohan Wilson and Justin Malbon, recognise that we represent our members. We are the holders of a baton, that all of us will one day pass on.

That baton is the power of writing to make a difference. Whatever the reason our members write and whatever level they want to achieve, from masterclasses, to beginner courses, residencies, webinar/in person/hybrid sessions, they find something of inspiration and value from the Centre.

Highlights that show our engagement are the triumphant and enthusiastic return of Writing Friday, including: expansion into youth and First Nations writing. The continuation of Brisbane Children's

Writers Festival, a strengthening of subcommittees to which members may be invited, a rise in numbers of in-person attendees at workshops and gatherings, ongoing success of Adaptable, Publishable, Printable and Scriptable; monthly writing competitions and residencies; increasing membership numbers and a growing alumni community supporting the next generations of writers.

We give thanks to our many sponsors and partners especially Arts Queensland and the State Library. Their support ensures the Centre can continue to deliver its many services to support the practice, development, and recognition of writers.

It is my great honour to serve you and to have been so warmly and kindly welcomed into this role. Here's to nurturing our staff, management, and you the wonderful members. May we all move ever closer to achieving our writing goals.

June Perkins
Chair

Queensland Writers Centre
Management Committee

Regional Engagement

Queensland's writing community has never been stronger as we continue to grow our regional engagement through program delivery, outreach and special projects. Our membership outside the Brisbane area is now at 45%, representing an increase from 2021 and our strong engagement throughout Queensland.

Post-COVID, the Regional Writers Reference Group has seen high attendance growth with continued support from within the organisation and from the Management Committee. The reference group allows communication and information sharing between regional writers, writers' groups and our Centre. It ensures that writers around Queensland are supported and maintains engagement throughout regional areas from both our organisation and between the different regional areas.

Early in the year, the second iteration of Telling Our Stories To The World came to an end with the release of WQ 276 Climatic. The magazine featured cover art by young First Nations artist Jesse Sutton from Mt Isa. Content covered stories from throughout the project and regional areas including: Julia Creek, Cloncurry, Cairns, Mossman, Karumba, Camooweal, Normanton, Cloncurry, Mt Isa, Cowan Downs, Charters Towers, Jimbour, and Bundaberg.

Even though many regional festivals were unable to go ahead in 2022, our relationships with them and support for them continued. For those that did proceed, it was rewarding as always to work in partnership to promote writers, readers and writing throughout the state. We look forward to seeing the return of Queensland's many writers' festivals in 2023.



MY FUTURE
TOWN WON'T HAVE...

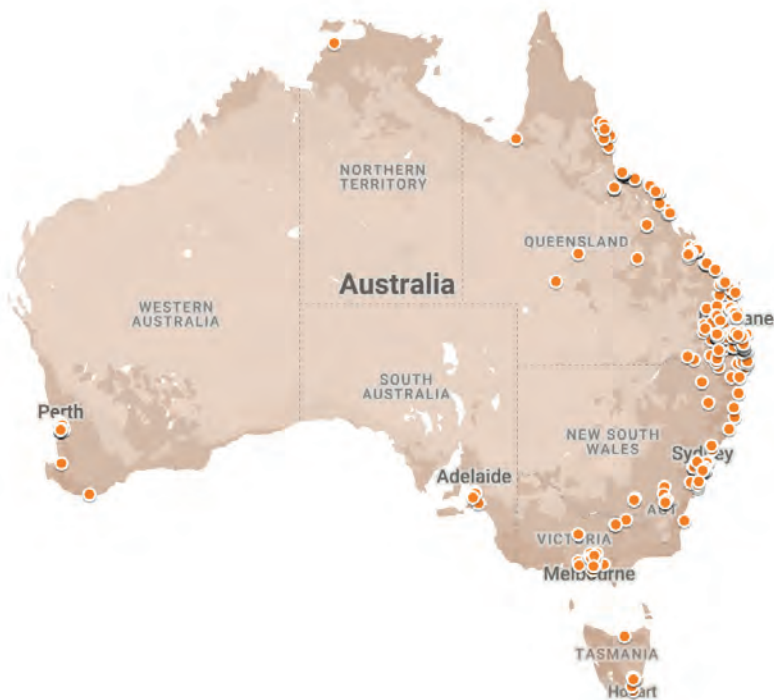
STORIES FROM REMOTE QUEENSLAND

IMAGE: FILEDIMAGE

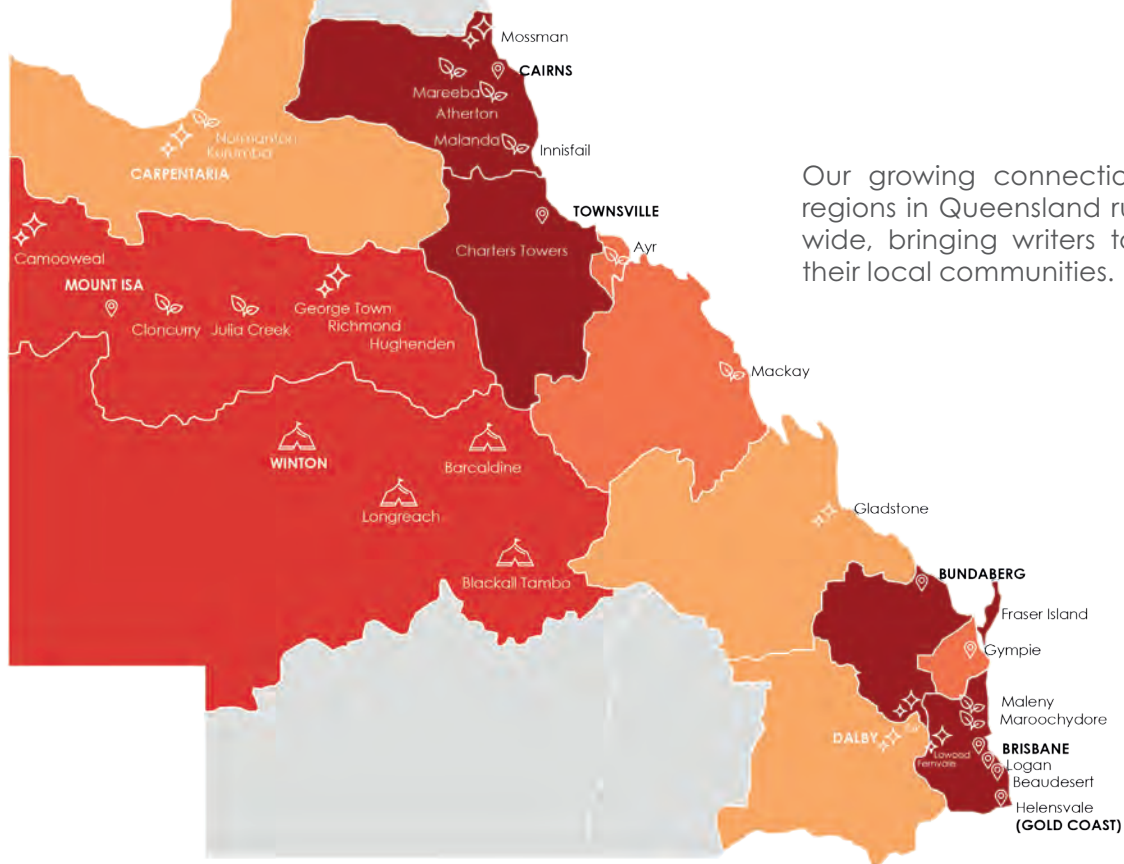
A staple of the Telling Our Stories To The World program are our postcard writing prompts, which encourage small acts of writing.

Membership

Our regional Queensland and national members find value in our programs and services, delivered to writers when and where they need them.



2021 - present



Our growing connections to the regions in Queensland run far and wide, bringing writers together in their local communities.





Membership

Queensland Writers Centre's membership base continues to be the lifeblood of our organisation.

With sustained growth for several years running, and having reached a milestone total membership in 2022, Queensland Writers Centre prides itself on responding and adapting to the needs of our diverse and growing community of writers across Queensland and Australia.

In 2022, we raised and distributed more funds than ever before from our Fellowship & Access Fund, which supports members from diverse backgrounds and financially disadvantaged situations to access writing programs and services.

Prepaid memberships are a key protection for the future of the Centre, and more members are choosing to support us with Five Year (Passionate) Memberships.

Most importantly, our members are achieving their writing goals and milestones, from acclaimed awards, publications of novels, fellowships and residencies, and published articles in journals, to the simple act of finishing a draft or submitting to a competition. Our members are not only an integral part of Queensland Writers Centre – they're an active and passionate part of Australian writing at large.

45%
of our members live
-and write!-
in regional Queensland

A further
10%
live interstate

Member Stories



"It is a uniquely interesting innovation to run programs that support writers to pitch their work to highly regarded Australian film producers. No other writing centre in Australia does this! (as far as I know). I have pitched several times in an exciting atmosphere.

The support for Australian Indigenous writers and culturally inclusive initiatives are also to be admired. I personally have benefitted from the positive recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander's writing and the respectful partnerships that Queensland Writers Centre embraces.

I live in regional NSW, but Queensland Writers Centre is the organisation that gives me the most support."

- Julie Janson



Tess Rowley

Our 2022 Johnno Award recipient was Tess Rowley. Most recently, Tess has written the children's picture book *Jack Changes the Game*, as part of a children's online safety initiative by the Australian Federal Police, Australian Centre to Counter Child Exploitation.

Tess also spent many years working on a passion project alongside a group of survivors of childhood institutional abuse at Nazareth House in Wynnum. The resulting speculative memoir, *Remembering Nazareth House*, was published in 2022 with the assistance of Queensland Writers Centre and the Truth, Healing and Reconciliation Grants Program. Tess continues to give talks to highlight the stories of survivors.

Competitions



Adaptable

Adaptable is Queensland Writers Centre's way of facilitating creative connections between the literary and screen communities, and one of the most joyous experiences of every year is our annual appearance at Gold Coast Film Festival for the Adaptable Market Day.

Following an exhaustive reading and assessment process in 2022, we took 25 shortlisted writers (both published and unpublished) from the program to meet with and pitch to leading screen industry professionals, including representatives from program partner Screen Queensland, and Queensland's Ludo Studios and Hoodlum Entertainment.

Over 180 pitches took place, and while the page to screen process can be a lengthy one, seeds of success from this and previous years are emerging, with some exciting projects now in the pipeline we can't wait to share.

"Adaptable is so much more than getting the chance to pitch your novel to film producers. You also get professional development, promotion and the joy of networking with authors from all over Australia. Whether you get optioned or not, it's such a valuable experience. I still look back on that whirlwind adventure fondly, and encourage all the authors I know to go for it!"

Rebecca Higgin

Publishable

Queensland Writers Centre's innovative reinvention of the Queensland Writers Centre/Hachette Manuscript Development Program, the Publishable program entered its 13th year of developing emerging voices for publication in 2022.

With another record year of results, the program gave our reading teams a highly diverse and exciting range of manuscripts to assess.

In the end, our final shortlist put a curated selection of highly talented, emerging writers with their pitches in best possible condition, in front of leading Australian publishers and agents, including Penguin Random House, Harlequin Fiction, Jane Novak Literary Agency, Allen & Unwin, Hachette Australia and Text Publishing.

Scriptable

Launching with a brand new youth category in 2022, Scriptable presented emerging screenwriters with the opportunity to have scripts for screenplays, TV series and webseries read by experienced screen practitioners, with shortlisted writers receiving matched mentorships with industry professionals.

The offering of Feedback Sessions, and our continuing commitment to providing a relevant development workshop to all applicants (presented by Stephen Davis in 2022) again proved popular and a successful component of the model of our ...able programs, which aim to present value to all writers.

Printable

Printable's focus is on preparing authors for the marketplace, and developing the skills needed to find and engage an audience of readers. The program ran successfully again in 2022 with a revamped hybrid model, including an intensive full-day workshop with guest authors. Participants were offered the opportunity for professional headshots, as well as follow-up consultations where we saw writers making progress developing their online profiles and presence.



ADAPTABLE

PRINTABLE

PUBLISHABLE

SCRIPTABLE

Program

Despite the challenges of 2022, and along with many of the centres in the National Writers Centre Network experiencing a continued reticence among members to come back out to in-person events, we presented a high-quality, inspiring and well-received program of in-person and online workshops featuring local authors and teachers. Later in the year we were also finally able to welcome back interstate guests to share their knowledge and passion for writing with our members.

As ever, we saw strong communities form around these sessions. For many emerging voices, these workshops are their first chance to be in a room with other writers, encouraging them to take their first steps forward, and reinforcing their identity as a writer.

Libraries

Queensland Writers Centre works in partnership with a number of city and regional councils and libraries, including Brisbane City, Ipswich City, City of Gold Coast, Logan City, Moreton Bay Regional, Fraser Coast Regional and more, to deliver a program of free and low-cost community events and workshops across Queensland.

These programs came to the forefront in 2022 as many regional events were able to run whilst our home office and spaces at State Library of Queensland were closed.

"Wonderful to receive feedback in a supportive environment and meet other authors in a similar phase of their writing journey."

Testimonial for Year Of The Novel with Nike Sulway



"This was the best workshop I've been to in a long time. One of those rare opportunities to engage with an experienced writer who knows precisely how to guide other writers and has the self-confidence, from decades at the heart of Australian literature, to contribute what writers often yearn for more than anything - honest feedback and practical advice."

Testimonial for Short Fiction Feedback Clinic with Debra Adelaide

Services

Writer's Services including manuscript assessments, editing, consultations, and mentorships are a complex but integral part of our remit, and 2022 was another strong year. Clients of our services see highly improved outcomes in submissions and publishing opportunities - gaining skills, elevating work and improving their pitches.

Virtual provision means we reach and deliver services to writers and members all over Queensland and Australia - and helped us

stay resilient during office closures. It's also one of the ways we are able to employ and pay so many established and skilled authors, editors and writing professionals in our community.

The highly successful Writer's Consult is now an essential part of our service provision for writers. Consults are about members' writing. They provide clear advice and pass on reader feedback from competitions and development programs via the ...able suite's Feedback Sessions.



"As a retired academic I have substantial experience in writing for academia but zero for the real world of commerce. QWC rescued me. Top professionals, stylish, lively, speedy."

Professor Owen McCarthy

"As a new author, working with Queensland Writers Centre has been a game-changer. They partnered me with a fantastic and experienced mentor who has helped me elevate my writing and build confidence as a writer."

Veronica Llorca

Residencies

Time and space to write is crucial to a writer's success – especially in times of disruption.

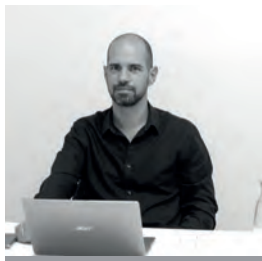
Queensland Writers Centre's residencies give authors - emerging and established - pride of place in our offices, working with focus on their manuscripts alongside our staff, not only reaching their goals and

delivering on project plans but contributing to the Centre's environment of creativity and productivity.

Our residents form long-term working relationships with the Centre, fellow residents, and their mentors, and we celebrate this at our annual residency alumni events.



Louisa Duval



Nico Hinze



Ana Lucia
Rodriguez Olivares



Steven Evans



Claire Alcock
(Flinthart Residency)



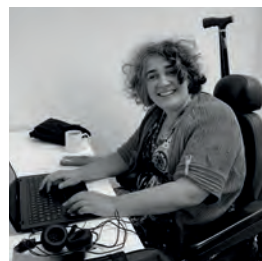
Leigh Hawthorne



Cody Hargreaves



Kali Napier



Alexandra
McCallum



Samuel Wagan
Watson

Varuna Fellowships

In 2022 Queensland Writers Centre formalised a longstanding relationship with Varuna, The National Writer's House to offer to members the inaugural Queensland Writers Centre Established Writers Fellowship and Underrepresented Writers Fellowship. Both residential fellowships include two weeks of full board and accommodation, catered meals and travel support.

The 2022 recipients were Prime Minister's Literary Award for Young Adult Literature recipient Richard Yaxley, for a work of adult literary fiction; and *Erotic Stories for Punjabi Widows* author Balli Jaswal for a YA coming-of-age story about identity in multicultural Australia.



Balli Jaswal



Richard Yaxley

Writing Friday



2022 was the year we were once again able to breathe life into our statewide Writing Friday program.

With 20+ locations by year's end, from Cairns to Caloundra, Bundaberg to Boonah, to our home at Queensland Writers Centre, a burgeoning partnership with community organisation Inala Wangarra and many more, the program is connecting hundreds of writers in their local

communities and giving them time and space to do what writers do best – write!

Supported by a small army of volunteer ambassadors, Writing Friday gives us unique regional outreach and embodies our commitment to the importance, and joy, of the creative process of simply sitting down to write – uninterrupted.



Working with Inala Wangarra demonstrates the power of connection and community. Writing Wednesday is up and running at Inala Wangarra and WQ 280, to be released in March 2023, will feature work from the Inala Wangarra community.



WQ Magazine

WQ attempts to engage with writers and writing on a range of levels that reflect the changing nature of writing throughout the community.

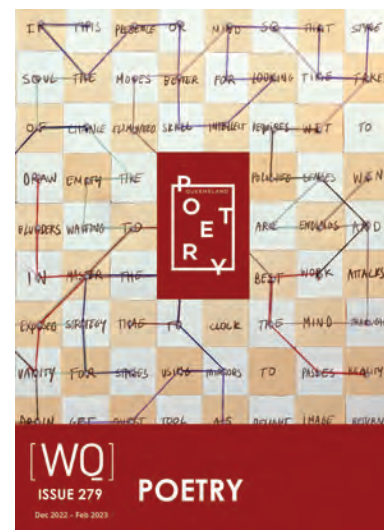
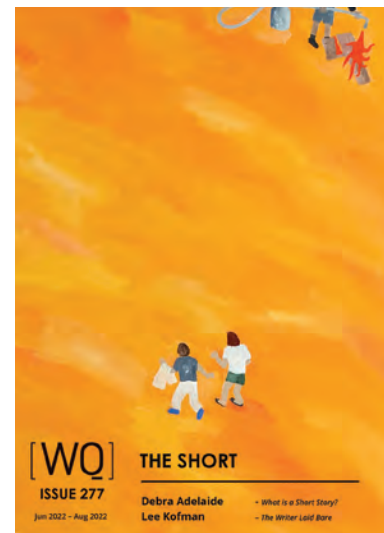
The year began with WQ 275 *Diaspora*, which featured a *Mosaic of Multilingual Poetry* reflecting the gifts and challenges of the diaspora. Four new issues followed throughout the year.

WQ 276 *Climatic* followed the second iteration of *Telling Our Stories To The World* and focused on stories of climate change and working in partnership with the Local Government Association of Queensland and the Department of Environment and Science.

WQ 277 *The Short* featured work by Sam Steinhaus on the cover. After experiencing flooding at the beginning of the year and watching the Lismore region go through their own devastating flooding experience, we reached out to the Director of Lismore Regional Gallery to offer support by featuring a local artist. The issue also featured renowned short story writer, Debra Adelaide.

WQ 278 *Inner Workings* celebrated the Centre and the many projects and events we have throughout the year. The issue featured writing from staff members and a dreamlike cover from Sona Babajanyan. This was a popular issue with members enjoying seeing the inner workings of the Centre.

WQ 279 *Poetry* was the final issue for the year and a collaboration with Queensland Poetry. We thank Queensland Poetry General Manager, Michael Peterson, and Artistic Director, Shane Brennan, for working with us to create a dedicated poetry issue.

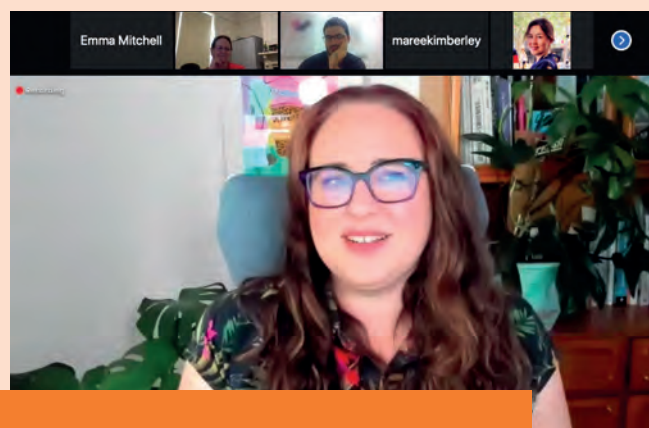
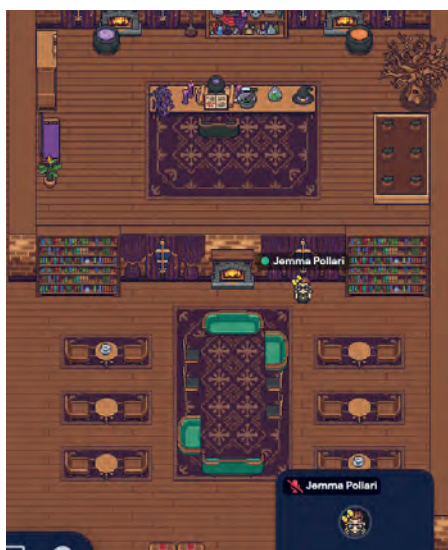


GenreCon

GenreCon in 2022 was a GenreCon experience like no other. Faced with continued office closures and COVID uncertainty, we made the decision to take the conference online again, delivering our full program of workshops, panels and events dedicated to celebrating genre fiction - in the unique and interactive virtual environment Gather.

The decision paid off. Our writers embraced the technology and its possibilities with open arms, and while we weren't able to connect in-person, GenreCon was able to continue to offer all of the opportunities for learning, networking and conversation it has become known for.

In 2022 our conference theme emphasised the strength and loyalty of the GenreCon community, exemplified by the welcoming of New York Times, USA Today and internationally bestselling fantasy author Amie Kaufman as our keynote speaker, 10 years after attending the very first GenreCon as young, aspiring writer.



"I'm so thrilled to be a part of GenreCon in 2022—it's a unique gathering of kindred spirits, and a truly special part of the genre landscape. I so clearly remember my very first GenreCon—which was the very first GenreCon. I found myself in a room full of writers and artists of every stripe, from all my favourite sections of the bookshop. I knew I was with my people. I felt like I was home."

Excerpt from Amie Kaufman's Keynote speech

Brisbane Children's Writers Festival

Following a successful pilot launch of Brisbane Children's Writers Festival in 2021, we ran at full scale in 2022 and welcomed a huge group of eager young writers (aged 10-16) to a booked-out event at State Library of Queensland for creative workshops, activities, tours and talks designed to engage and inspire.

Special guest presenters appearing alongside Queensland Writers Centre tutors on the program included children's author Lian Tanner, illustrator Rowan Campbell, and Indigenous artist Billie Musk as part of our collaboration with Somerset Storyfest's On the Road programme.

BRISBANE CHILDREN'S
WRITERS FESTIVAL



Youth Writing



After a year of exponential growth in youth membership in 2021, our focus quickly turned to delivering high quality events and programs for our burgeoning audience of young writers – a key part of our strategic plan.

Youth Writing Saturday is a monthly creative writing workshop for young people, held at Queensland Writers Centre and expanding to a second location on the Sunshine Coast at Cooroy in 2022. A strong returning group of young writers is forming around the sessions and we

welcome new writers often - with many already making headway in the broader literary world with publications in magazines and shortlisting in major prizes. Queensland Writers Centre sees it as a primary responsibility to nurture, encourage and provide supportive environments for these young people, as the next generation of writers and the future of the centre itself.

We see room for growth and further consolidation of our youth membership base, including in further age brackets, in the years to come.



Auditor's Report

In my opinion, the accompanying financial report of the Association for the year ended 31 December 2022 presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Association as at 31 December 2022, and of its financial performance for the

year then ended in accordance with the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act (QLD) 1981 (as amended by the Associations Incorporation and Other Legislation Amendment Act (QLD) 2020).

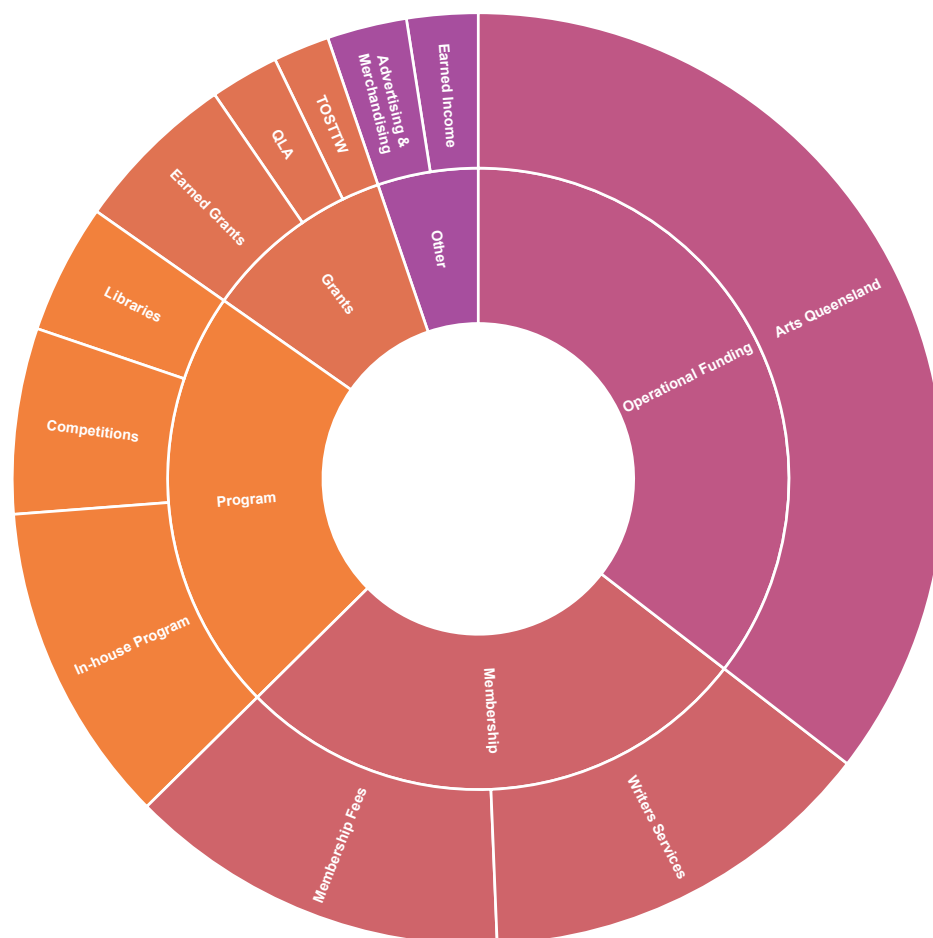
James Kenward
Auditor

INCOME

Graph Key

QLA: Queensland Literary Awards

TOSTTW: Telling Our Stories To The World



Treasurer's Report

On behalf of the Management Committee I am pleased to present the Queensland Writers Centre Financial Report for the year ended 31 December 2022.

While reported income is a little lower at \$902,417 (2021: \$964,742), it still represents a strong recovery from the pandemic with a notable increase in internally generated revenue giving a solid base on which to build for the future.

We continue to benefit from Arts Queensland operational funding, while income from internal program, competition

and membership service offerings have increased year on year.

Reported expenses of \$893,014, (2021: \$922,222) are consistent with the revenue position and reflect sound financial and budgetary control. The centre continues to hold funds in reserve for both the Fellowship and Access Fund and the multi-year Varuna Residency partnership.

The net result is a surplus of \$9,403 (2021: \$42,520), delivered despite three months locked out of our offices due to Covid restrictions in January and flood interruption

from February to May - highly impacting all programming and services.

The Balance Sheet reports total assets of \$425,622 (2021: \$467,520), total liabilities of \$179,499 (2021: \$230,800) and total net assets of \$246,123 (2021: \$236,720).

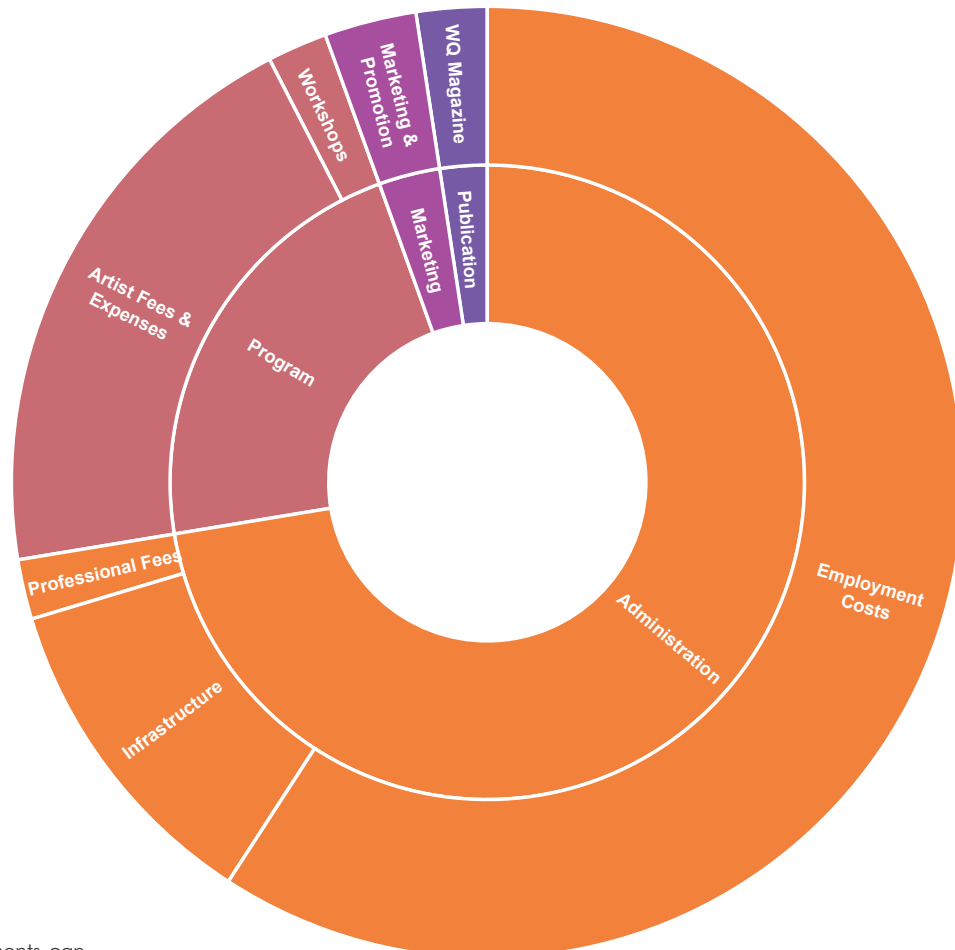
Overall, the centre remains in a strong and sustainable financial position moving into the second year of the current 4-year partnership with Arts Queensland.

Mary McWeeney
Treasurer

EXPENDITURE

Graph Key

WQ: Writing Queensland Magazine



Note: The full audited financial statements can be found on the Queensland Writers Centre website on our [Governance Page](#).

Partnerships

We are proud to work with organisations, groups and industry partners from across Queensland and Australia to deliver diverse projects. Thank you for your support throughout 2022.

Queensland Writers Centre is based at the State Library of Queensland on Kurilpa Point in South Brisbane. Named after the native water rat (kuril), Kurilpa Point has a significant history as an important meeting place, and we acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we reside. As we operate throughout the entire state of Queensland, we respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Owners of all the Nations on which we meet.

PARTNERS



Queensland Writers Centre is supported by the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland.

TENANT PARTNERS



FESTIVAL PARTNERS



UNIVERSITIES



INDUSTRY & PROGRAM PARTNERS



LIBRARIES & COUNCILS



NATIONAL WRITERS CENTRE NETWORK



Thank You

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Chair | June Perkins
Vice Chair | Lara Cain Gray
Treasurer | Mary McWeeney
Secretary | Colin Hester
Member | Peter Long
Member | Rohan Wilson
Member | Jemma Pollari
Member | Stephen Torre
Member | Justin Malbon

Chair | Kym Hausmann
Secretary | Kim Douglas
Member | Carolyn Martinez

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Sandra Makaresz
Charlie Hester
Craig Cauchi
Aleisha Yu
Bronte Mark
Madison Blissett de Weger
Christopher Grace
Connor Harvey
Yuqiao Wu
Peri Cummins
Emma Mitchell
Sebastian Williams
Sophie Barlow
Sophie Bafekr
Ainsley Botterell
Cody Hargreaves
Jemma Hargreaves
Anne Varnes

WRITING FRIDAY AMBASSADORS

Allision Sciani
Amy Andrews
Belinda Marsden-Smedley
Brett Coster
Celia Berrell
Colin Williams
Debra Cooper
Emma Ranie
Erin Robertson
Geoff Barlow
Jen Fairless
Jillian Field
Judy Wollin
Kate Kelson
Kathy Carruthers
Laree Chapman
Leanne Dodd
Rhiannon Elton
Rhonda Valentine Dixon
Roy David
Tiina Horn
Tina Clark

WORK EXPERIENCE

Chloe Macpherson
Ella Hansen
Mia McPhail
Priya Singh

VOLUNTEERS

Abbie Flint
Aidan Demmers
Alex Barbera
Alex Dupriez
Amaliah Grace
Amara Motala
Anna Madrigal
Cody Hargreaves
Dago Murietta
Edith Firkin
Francis Harvey
Jemma Hargreaves
Jo MacKenzie
Juliette Sauvage
Konstanz Muller-Herring
Meredith Taylor
Nicole Jonsson
Raelene Purfill
Shannon O'Brien
Stacey Tyler

BETA READERS

Abbie Flint
Alexandra Patrikios
Amara Motala
Ann Farley
Christine Ferdinands
Colleen Logie
David Shield
Eleanor List
Elizabeth Mills
Graham Mitchell
Jaydan Salzke
Jeff Stoward
Jennifer McLennan
Jo Ruksenas
Joe Moore
Juanita Simmonds
Judy Clark
Justine Devlin
Kris Emery
Kristy Hayward
Linda Andrews
Lynda Andrews
Meg Grace
Mikala Smee
Miki Clarke
Naomi Alexander
Nico Hinz
Olivia Jayne de Silva
Paul Hathaway
Poppy Solomon
Rachel Zurvas
Rob McLaren
Sarah Ross
Seb Petroni
Steph Maker
Stevie Ackerman
Tina Strachan

DONORS

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Andrea Ballesteros
Asale Curry
Barbara Hickey
Colin Hester
David Howell
David Kay
Dominique Rivero
Dona S Zappone
Fiona Gapes
Gabriella Pasztor
Gillian Ray-Barruel
Indrani Ganguly
Inessa Jackson
Jan Maddern
Jo Skinner
Jocelyn Hawes
Ky Garvey
Leanne Hester
Leigh Hawthorne
Lyn Moltzen
Lynda O'Halloran
Marita Wilcox
Narelle Smith
Pamela Jeffs
Peter Bycroft
Peter Perkins
Raelene Purfill
Sharon Bickle
Stuart Beavis
Sue Manger
Tehani Croft
Vicki Thomas

INTERNS

Ainsley Botterell
Anjali Gautam
Artemis Doudkin
Ava Wilschke
Bronte Mark
Chantelle Koch
Chloe Crawford
Chloe Dover
Eleanor List
Esha Forrest
Elysha McIntyre
Hafizah Atika Binte Abdullah
Harri Gordon
Jake Rogers
Keira Rawlins
Leonie Hope
Madison Blissett de Weger
Matilda Thompson
Sophie Pham
Thejaswini Shashidhar Bhat

Looking Forward

For five years, Queensland Writers Centre has focused on looking to the future and increasing our ability to pivot with the changing landscape of arts funding and services in Australia.

With a new National Cultural Policy on the horizon, it has never been more important to position our organisation as a leader in arts organisation transformation. We have already moved from an aging model of dependence on government funding and inward thinking, to become a future focused arts-based business combining multiple funding streams, income generation and broad community engagement.

The past five years saw the Centre rebuild from transactional to transformational thinking enabling a positive balance sheet, membership growth (including 400% youth) and increased equity across all areas of delivery. We are thought leaders, delivering workshops and seminars in areas such as First Nations representation in fiction with authors Julie Janson and Yvette Holt, youth writing and diverse interests.

Our small team successfully runs 80+ projects, impacting over 35,000 participants and employing approximately 1500 writers and arts workers. At its heart, Queensland Writers Centre is a dynamic community excited to meet the needs of its current and future members.



I have submitted my memoir, *My Mother's Daughter*, to the Publishable Program since 2020.

My Mother's Daughter narrates my experiences of the Fall of Saigon, life as a refugee, workplace assault and standing up against the bullies while undergoing treatment for breast cancer.

Every year, for the past three years, I received a thirty-minute oral feedback session with Queensland Writers Centre CEO, Lori-Jay Ellis, via Zoom... I improved my manuscript then applied for the Fellowship & Access Manuscript Development initiative through QWC.

As a recipient of the 2021 Fellowship & Access Manuscript Development, I was fortunate to work with Sara El Sayed to develop my manuscript further.

Through the 2022 Publishable Program, I had a chance to participate in a Zoom session with Jacinta di Mase about how an agency works, how to approach an agent, what to write to an agent and what to include in a pitch. She also advised me to start planning for my next book. Through Laurel Cohn's three-hour workshop, I learned many techniques that successful writers use.

Thank you QWC for having programs that help emerging writers.

Minh Hien

abridged quote





*Level 2, State Library of Queensland
Stanley Street, South Brisbane*

(07) 3842 9922

admin@qldwriters.org.au